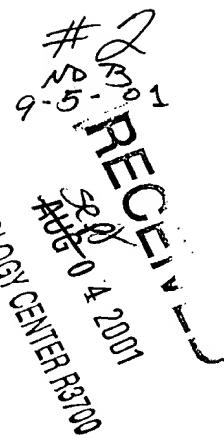




IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Application of: M. CHEN

Application No.: 09/866,841

Group Art Unit: 3732

Filed: May 30, 2001

Examiner: Unassigned

For: FIXATION ELEMENT INSERTION DEVICE Attorney Docket No.: 8932-193

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 AND § 1.98**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and 1.98, enclosed is a Form PTO-1449 which lists 29 references in reverse chronological order, copies of which are enclosed for the Examiner's convenience.

It is respectfully requested that these references be made of record in this application by the Examiner's completion and return of the Form PTO-1449.

No fee is believed to be due for this submission, since it is being made before an initial Office Action on the merits of the above-identified application. Should any fee be required, however, please charge such fee to Pennie & Edmonds LLP Deposit Account No. 16-1150.

Respectfully submitted,

For: Brian M. Rothery

Date August 30, 2001

For

Brian J. Malm

Reg. No. 44,895

Brian M. Rothery

Reg. No. 35,340

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Enclosures